

REMARKS

Examiner Interview

Applicants acknowledge with sincere appreciation the courtesy of a telephone interview extended to Applicants' attorney, Justin Liu, on August 8, 2006. During the interview, no exhibit was shown and no demonstration was conducted. Claim 1 was discussed. It was agreed that the present rejection would be withdrawn, and that Applicants would have an opportunity to discuss the claims with the new Examiner before any final rejection in this case.

Summary of Claim Status

Claims 1, 3-18, and 20-28 are pending in the present application after entry of the present amendment. Claims 1, 3-14, 17, 18, and 20-26 were rejected for the reasons discussed below. Claims 27 and 28 are added to claim the invention in alternative language. The new claims are fully supported by the specification as filed, for example by Fig. 7 and the corresponding text at paragraphs [0038] and [0039], and Applicants believe the new claims further distinguish over the cited art. Claims 15 and 16 are allowed. Applicants appreciate this acknowledgement of patentable subject matter.

Applicants respectfully request favorable reconsideration of the claims in view of the present amendment and in light of the following discussion.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1, 3-11, 13-17, 23, and 24 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Whetsel et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,894,308 ("Whetsel"), in view of Singh, U.S. Patent No. 6,069,515 ("Singh"). Claims 12, 25, and 26 were rejected, apparently under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Whetsel in view of Singh. Claims 18, and 20-22 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Whetsel and Singh in view of Fister, U.S. Patent No. 6,285,609 ("Fister"). Applicants respectfully disagree and traverse the rejections with regard to

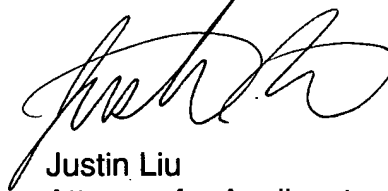
all claims. As noted above, the Examiner noted in an interview that the alleged combination was not proper, and agreed to withdraw the present rejections.

Applicants submit that the claims are allowable over all of the cited references, and respectfully request allowance of the claims.

Conclusion

No new matter has been introduced by any of the above amendments. In light of the above amendments and remarks, Applicants believe that Claims 1, 3-18, and 20-28 are in condition for allowance, and allowance of the application is therefore requested. If action other than allowance is contemplated by the Examiner, the Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone Applicants' attorney, Justin Liu, at 408-879-4641.

Respectfully submitted,



Justin Liu
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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. BOX 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on August 29, 2006.

Julie Matthews
Name


Signature